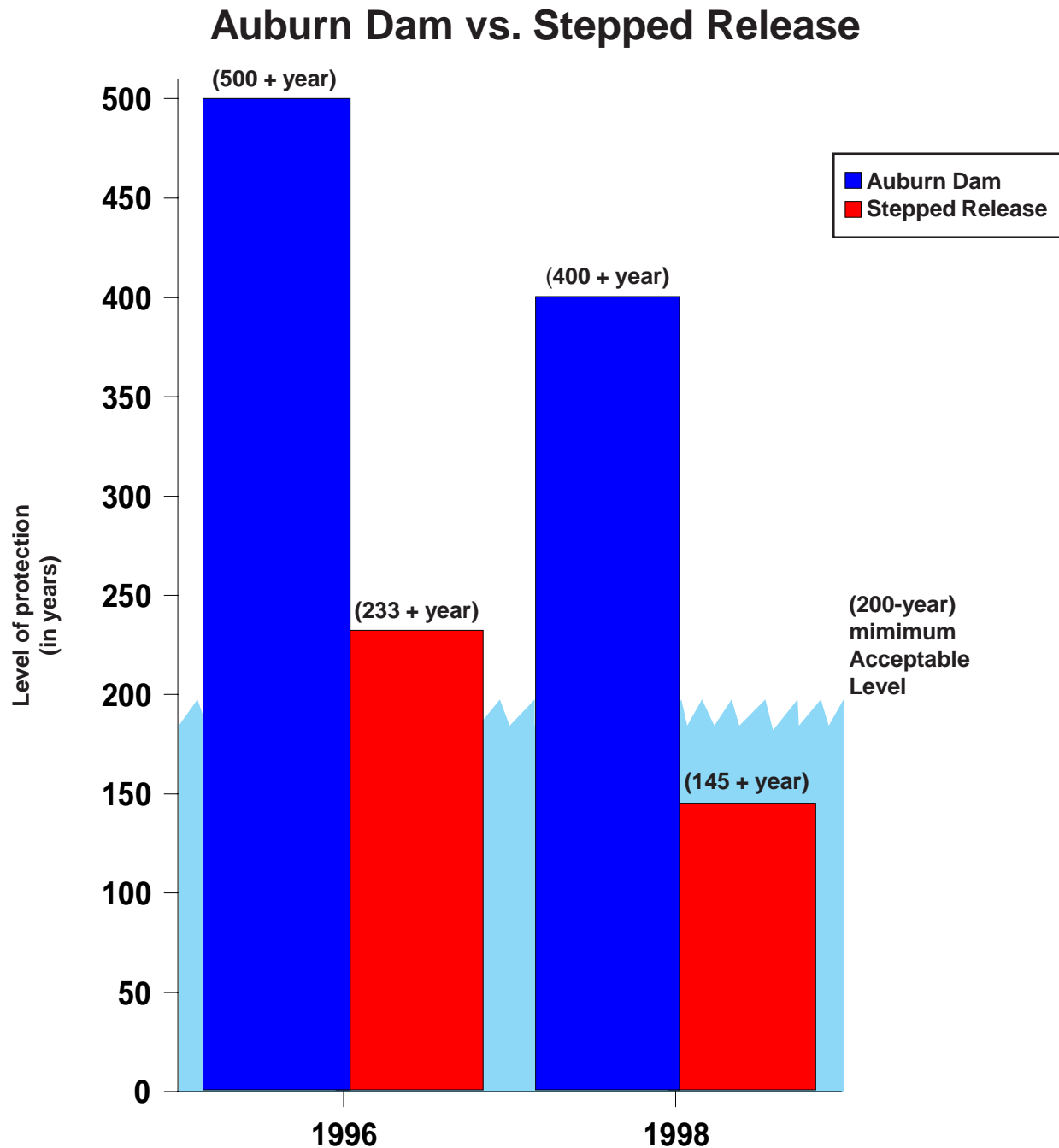


WHAT'S CHANGED SINCE 1996

The Corps announces that the Stepped Release Plan no longer protects the 400,000 people of Sacramento from a minimum 200-year flood event.

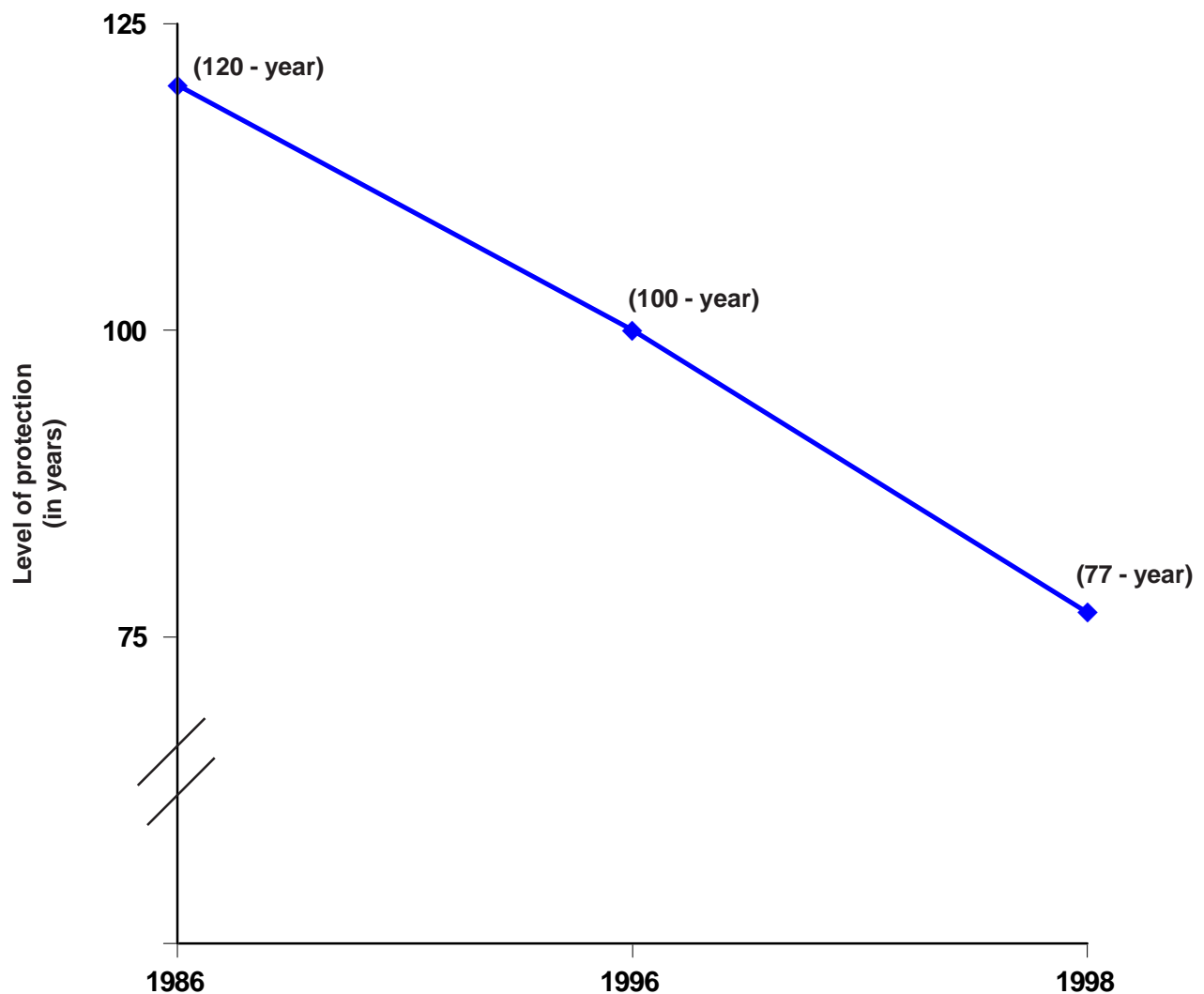


Source: US Army Corps of Engineers

WHAT'S CHANGED SINCE 1996

The Corps of Engineers re-evaluates the region's flood protection and announces that Sacramento is at much greater risk than previously thought.

Sacramento's Dwindling Flood Protection



Source: US Army Corps of Engineers

TELL SACRAMENTO TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT PROTECTING ITS PEOPLE

Everyone acknowledges that 400,000 floodplain residents will be in jeopardy until Sacramento gets a minimum of 200-year flood protection.

Yet Sacramento still isn't proposing a plan to reach 200-year protection.

Sacramento needs to get serious about its flood control problem.

As such, I am preparing legislation which, among other things, will:

- Require FEMA to keep in effect flood insurance and building regulations until Sacramento has flood control which protects against a 200-year flood event.
- Require that any “stop-gap” flood control measures which do not offer 200-year protection (and which are not part of a larger, comprehensive, and congressionally-authorized plan to protect against such a flood) will be eligible for maximum 25% federal cost.
- Require a “Chief’s Report” from the Corps of Engineers before any flood control projects may be authorized.
- Prohibit Congress from authorizing any modifications to Folsom Dam without additional study of alternatives not included in the 1996 Corps report.
- Require that any modifications to Folsom Dam fully mitigate for significant economic problems caused by disruption of traffic on the dam road.
- Remove the federal government from this politically-charged issue by transferring the current Auburn Dam site to the state of California.

THE STEPPED RELEASE PLAN: “THE MOST DANGEROUS OF ALL”

The testimony before Congress in 1996

- Butch Hodgkins, Executive Director of the Sacramento Flood Control Agency:

The Stepped Release Plan would “red line” the flood control system.

- David Kennedy, Director of the California Department of Water Resources:

The Stepped Release Plan’s “deeper and faster river flows would increase the probability of levee failure.”

- Joe Countryman, the engineer who designed the plan:

“By putting more water through the system ... the Stepped Release Plan pushes the existing system to its limits. Many experienced flood operators are very concerned that the 100-year old flood system would not be able to withstand the planned 56 percent increase in flood flows.”

- Sacramento Bee, the region's newspaper:

The Stepped Release Plan “is the most dangerous of all the flood plans under review, posing major risks both for public safety and the environment. It is also by far the most expensive in terms of the local costs it would impose because it fails nearly all the tests for justifying federal investment.”

WHAT'S CHANGED SINCE 1996

In January 1997, Sacramento dodges another bullet.

- Inflow into Folsom Reservoir peaked at 252,500 cubic feet per second — the greatest inflow ever measured.
- 115,000 cfs was released from Folsom Dam — the maximum amount the American River levees are designed to withstand — for over 30 straight hours.
- The County of Sacramento issued a voluntary evacuation order.
- Over 50 levees broke across the state, causing \$2 billion in damage.
- Massive levee breaks occurred directly to the north and south of Sacramento, killing 17, destroying 30,000 homes and 2,000 businesses, leaving standing water for weeks.
- If the path of the storm had been just slightly north, as originally predicted, 160,000 cfs would have been released from Folsom Dam — well beyond the design capacity of the levees and almost certainly causing catastrophic flooding in Sacramento.

200-YEAR FLOOD PROTECTION: AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM FOR SACRAMENTO

Anything Less is A Waste of Taxpayer Dollars

In 1996, the Sacramento region was united in calling for a minimum of 200-year protection, since we all acknowledged this size flood will eventually hit the area.

Supporters of 200-year flood protection

Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

Governor Pete Wilson

State of California Reclamation Board

City of Sacramento

Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce

Local and national environmental groups

Rep. Bob Matsui

Rep. Vic Fazio

Rep. John Doolittle

Rep. Richard Pombo

Rep. Wally Herger

and others